

Weekly Column for March 1, 2007

In like a lion and out like a lamb. Or so they say. This year it appears that March will indeed hold up to its end of the bargain with a winter storm headed our way tonight and into tomorrow. Take it easy on the roads out there, and if you can, please keep your cars off the street when possible. This means that all City parking facilities are free of charge beginning tomorrow and through the weekend.

Today's column will be a little potpourri from the last few weeks and some things for the future.

*First off, I want to thank everyone who worked hard to see that the first-ever Troy Night Out was a great success. Despite frigid temperatures, and I don't use that word loosely, the amount of people in downtown was tremendous. Cars were parked on all of the streets, businesses were filled, and restaurants were packed.

It was the best-case scenario for all- a great event for storeowners, while providing the opportunity for organizers to make some small changes for the next one, which is March 23rd by the way. We expect to see you there.

* Tonight, the City Council will vote on two very important issues involving the Congress Ferry Street Corridor. The first is the sale of the car wash site to the United Hedley Development Team. The second is the road design for the Congress and Ferry Street Corridors. You can expect to hear more about this in the coming weeks, but these are two essential steps forward for this wonderful project, and we are still on target for work to begin in the spring of 2008.

* Tomorrow is Read Across America Day, and if the snow holds off, I will be participating in the event at Carroll Hill School at 8 a.m. and later at School 16. I love visiting our schools; it gives me great hope for the future.

* And finally this week, I have an excellent new dining option that people must try- the aptly named Hotspot Café. This new establishment is located at 122 4th Street on the block between Congress and State Streets. I can't say enough about the work that was done in the building, or the hospitality you feel upon entering.

The owner is Daryl Fortney, and he has quite the story to tell. Just to give a little preview of the café, the sandwiches on the menu are named after volcano's he has climbed. You don't hear that everyday. Check it out, I promise you won't be disappointed.

Have a great weekend!

Harry J Tutunjian
Mayor of Troy